**Class Hierarchy**

* **Place**: The root class, with a printMe() method that prints "Buy it."
* **Region**: Inherits from Place, with its own printMe() method that prints "Box it."
* **State**: Inherits from Region, with its own printMe() method that prints "Ship it."
* **Maryland**: Inherits from State, with its own printMe() method that prints "Read it."

**Main Method Analysis**

public static void main(String[] args) {

Region east = new State(); // Create a new State object, which is a subclass of Region

State md = new Maryland(); // Create a new Maryland object, which is a subclass of State

Object obj = new Place(); // Create a new Place object

Place usa = new Region(); // Create a new Region object, which is a subclass of Place

md.printMe(); // md is a Maryland object, so it calls the Maryland printMe() method.

east.printMe(); // east is a State object, so it calls the State printMe() method.

((Place) obj).printMe(); // obj is a Place object, so it calls the Place printMe() method.

obj = md; // obj now points to a Maryland object

((Maryland) obj).printMe(); // obj is now a Maryland object, so it calls the Maryland printMe() method.

obj = usa; // obj now points to a Region object

((Place) obj).printMe(); // obj is a Region object, so it calls the Region printMe() method.

usa = md; // usa now points to a Maryland object

((Place) usa).printMe(); // usa is a Maryland object, so it calls the Maryland printMe() method.

}

**Step-by-Step Output Explanation:**

1. md.printMe();
   * md is a Maryland object, and it calls the printMe() method of Maryland, which prints:

Read it.

 east.printMe();

* east is a State object, and it calls the printMe() method of State, which prints:

Ship it.

 ((Place) obj).printMe();

* obj is a Place object, and it calls the printMe() method of Place, which prints:

Buy it.

 obj = md; ((Maryland) obj).printMe();

* obj is now pointing to a Maryland object. Casting it to Maryland, it calls the printMe() method of Maryland, which prints:

Read it.

 obj = usa; ((Place) obj).printMe();

* obj now points to a Region object (usa is a Region object). Casting it to Place, it calls the printMe() method of Region, which prints:

Box it.

 usa = md; ((Place) usa).printMe();

* usa now points to a Maryland object. Casting it to Place, it calls the printMe() method of Maryland, which prints:

Read it.

### Final Output:

Read it.

Ship it.

Buy it.

Read it.

Box it.

Read it.

This is the output you would see when calling the main() method of the Maryland class.